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- Sakurai, Tatsuaki c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Ota-Ku Tokyo 143 (JP)
- Kudou, Ryuuji
yokohama-shi 240-0052 (JP)

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(71) Applicant: **Ricoh Company, Ltd**
Ohta-ku Tokyo 143 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Senior, Alan Murray et al**
J.A. KEMP & CO.,
14 South Square,
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5LX (GB)

(72) Inventors:
• Sofue, Masaaki c/o Ricoh Company, Ltd.
Ota-Ku Tokyo 143 (JP)

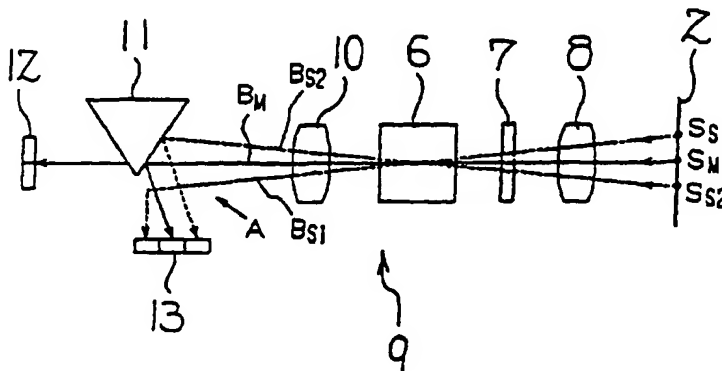
(54) Optical pick-up apparatus

(57) An optical pick-up apparatus using the knife edge method to detect focus errors is arranged so that the sub-spot (S_{s1}) which gives rise to the sub-beam (B_{s1}) which is intercepted in the detection optical system by the knife edge (11) to a lesser extent is positioned on the optical disc (2) ahead of the main spot in the recording direction. The sub-spot (S_{s2}) giving rise to the detection sub-beam (B_{s2}) which is intercepted by the knife

edge in the detection optical system to a greater extent is located on the disc behind the main spot relative to the recording direction. In this manner an imbalance in the amount of light from each sub-beam reflected by the knife edge to the tracking error photodetector is compensated for by an imbalance in the reflectivities of the non-recorded portion ahead of the main beam and the recorded portion behind the main beam.

FIG 1(a)

(a)





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	28 June 1999	Pariset, N	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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